

11696 U.S. PTO

ATTN: NATHAN CRESPO

Alvin Smellk

To: Tom Blair/LMR

04/06/04 03:45 PM

cc:

Subject: ear

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10/824167



Aarmco Ear Cleaner Project

- Manufacturing method to be used for producing the ear cleaner will be injection molding.
- An all electric injection molding machine will be utilized for running the multi-cavity tool to produce these parts.
- Mold will be a standard S.A.E. tool with a hot runner system engineered for multi-cavities.
- Hardened, high grade steel will be utilized for the cavity blocks.
- Material will be a commodity grade Polypropylene or Polyethylene based on functional application. Virgin material only will be used.
- Molding and manufacturing will occur in a clean area of the plant.
- Molded parts will be run through an automated packaging machine for preparation of final shipment and distribution.
- ISO standard guidelines will be implemented for Quality Control and all manufacturing processes related to this part.

*Please note enclosed is a model of this product actual materials are softer and mentioned above also more flexible. Rhonda,
Give me A CALL IF THIS IS NOT WHAT YOU NEED. Rick*

FAX 423 625-1040

Patent Applications

An application for a patent is made to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks and includes:

1. A written document which comprises a specification (description and claims), and an oath or declaration;
2. A drawing in those cases in which a drawing is necessary; and
3. The filing fee (see fee schedule).

The specification and oath or declaration must be legibly written or printed in permanent ink on one side of the paper. The Office prefers typewriting on letter or legal-size paper, 8 to 8.5 by 10.5 to 13 inches (20.3 to 21.6 by 26.7 to 33.0 cm), 1.5 or double spaced, with margins of 1 inch (2.54 cm) on the left-hand side and at the top.

The inventor must submit an oath or declaration that he/she believes himself/herself to be the original and first inventor of the subject matter of the application and must make various other allegations required by law. The oath must be notarized.

An applicant will be notified about any deficiencies in the application and given a time period to remedy them, but a surcharge may be required. The filing fee may be refunded when the application is determined to be incomplete and refused acceptance, but a handling fee may be charged. Models are not required in most cases.

Applicants should consult a patent attorney or agent to avoid errors in filing and prosecution of an application. All U.S. original patent applications are maintained in strict secrecy until a patent is issued.

Further information concerning patents will be found in the book *General Information Concerning Patents*, and in the other publications listed on page 10 available for inspection at various libraries and for purchase from the Government Printing Office.

Disclosure Document Program

Under its Disclosure Document Program, the USPTO accepts and preserves for a two-year period papers disclosing an invention pending the filing of an application for patent. This disclosure is accepted as evidence of the dates of conception of the invention, but provides no patent protection. The disclosure is limited to written matter or drawings on paper or other thin, flexible material, such as linen or plastic drafting material having dimensions or folded to dimensions not to exceed 8.5 by 13 inches (21.6 x 33.0 cm). Photographs are acceptable. Each page should be numbered. Text and drawings should be reproduction quality. The disclosure must be accompanied by a separate paper in duplicate, signed by the inventor, stating that he or she is the inventor and requesting that the material be reviewed for processing under the Disclosure Document Program and accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the required fee. The duplicate paper will be stamped with an identifying number and returned for the inventor's record. The disclosure will be kept in the Office for two years and then destroyed unless referred to in a separate letter in a related patent application. The fee is payable to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademark (see fee schedule).